



Racial Justice **ACTION SQUAD**



AARUSHI GUPTA (SHE/HER)

Aarushi is a Sophomore at Johnson High School in Polk County. Aarushi likes to skateboard and play guitar. She also loves to paint and display her collections in the community. She is a tennis player and cheerleader and is also the co-founder of Dia-Beat it! Educational Foundation. Aarushi loves to listen to music, some of her favorite genres include indie, alt-rock, bedroom, and r&b music.



AMYA THORNTON (SHE/HER)

Amya is a sophomore at Cedar Falls High School. She is the 2020 Poetry Out Loud State Champion and is involved in the Black Student Union and speech at her school. Amya is an Environmental Activist, a mentor to aspiring poets, and enjoys cultural studies and storytelling. She is a proud member of the BTS Army. Amya wants to attend Julliard and become an actress.



ENDI MONTALVO-MARTÍNEZ (HE/HIM)

Endi Montalvo-Martínez is a 1st generation Chicano/Latino from Polk County. He is graduating from East High and plans to study at Iowa State next fall (biochemistry, Spanish and Latinx Studies). He is very passionate about decolonizing and social justice to serve his community.



BRIANNA DEASON (SHE/HER)

Brianna is 20 years old and from Marion County. She is in her junior year of college at The University of Iowa, studying Political Science and Pre-Law. Brianna grew up in foster care with her current family in Marion County. She hopes to either become a child advocate attorney for foster youth or work as a lawyer fighting racial inequality.



CAMILLE PAGE (SHE/HER)

Camille is a freshman at Roosevelt High School in Polk County.



EVA BEAR (SHE/HER)

Eva Bear is a sophomore at Bishop Helen Catholic School in Sioux City and part of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. She loves to spread awareness about the struggles of being an Indigenous woman. She speaks up for the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and also for the LGBTQIA+ community.



GRACE NELSON (SHE/HER)

Grace Nelson is a sophomore at Bishop Heelan Catholic High School in Sioux City. In school, Grace participates in choir, drama, student council, and the environmental club. Outside of school, she's active in the Sioux City Mayor's Youth Commission, the Racial Justice Youth Action Squad and advocating for disability rights and activism as Grace is a full-time wheelchair user.



GRACE GOLMAN (SHE/HER)

Grace Golman is a freshman from Cerro Gordo County. She has been all around the world and has seen discrimination basically everywhere she has travelled. Grace strives to change this, so herself and her family can live a judgeless life.



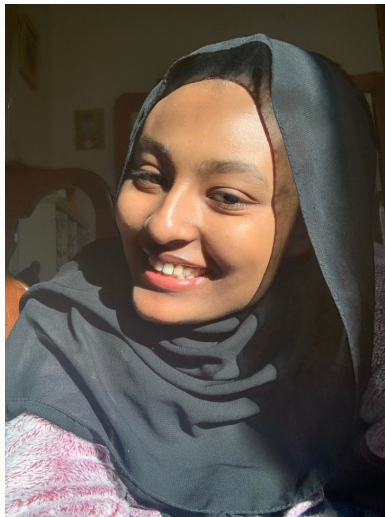
HANNA HARTMAN (THEY/THEM,SHE/HER)

Hanna Hartman is a junior at Creston Community High School in Union County. She is a South Korean-white American looking to make a change. She studies as a junior at Creston Community High School wanting to further her education and gain a more open mind by joining the Youth Action Squad. Hanna hopes to change perspectives and create awareness from learning in the YAS program.



IMANI GAINES

Imani is from Polk county.



IMMAN YIMER(SHE/HER)

Imman is a junior at Roosevelt High School from Polk County. Imman is a passionate and hardworking person. She loves to get to know other people and explore others cultures. Her passion for social justice has moved past schools clubs and social media. She is thankful for the opportunity to join the Youth Action Squad.

Image coming
soon

JOSIELYN ROSAS

Bio Coming Soon!



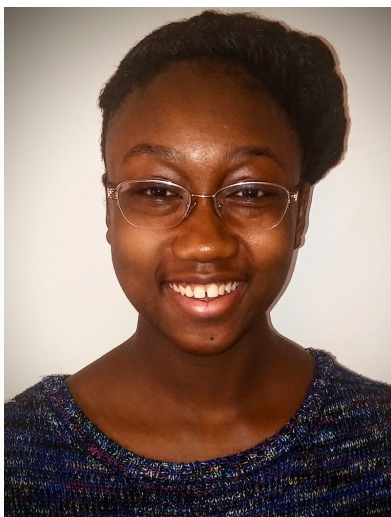
LIZBETH GARCIA

Bio Coming soon!



LYRIC SELLERS (SHE/HER)

Lyric is a junior at East High School, born and raised in Des Moines, Iowa. Lyric has always been passionate about advocating for social justice in her community. Outside of fighting for racial equity and justice, Lyric enjoys playing basketball, being in the theatre, and spending time with family and friends. Lyric aspires to contribute to change in any capacity and hopes to leave something that lasts longer than her.



MAIA LONG (THEY/THEM, SHE/HER)

Maia is a homeschooled ninth grader from Polk County. She has several hobbies, including drawing and music. Maia joined the Racial Justice Youth Action Squad, because she believes it will equip her with knowledge necessary to make change in her community.



NADIA MUROBYI (SHE/HER)

Nadia is a senior at Abraham Lincoln High School in Polk County. She is involved in CORE, NCYL, theatre, Sisters for Success, Trendsettas (a hip-hop dance group) and Key Club (a volunteer group). Nadia enjoys spending time with her friends and family, dancing and traveling. The reason why she joined the Youth Action Squad is because she has seen people experience racism just because they were different, and she knows the affect of trauma that racism can cause to people, so she wanted to stand up and speak for people who weren't being heard or who couldn't speak for themselves.



NATHAN FAVORS (HE/HIM)

Nathan is a senior at Bishop Heelan High School in Sioux City. In his free time, he enjoys playing piano, messing with Rubik's Cubes and he even plays quarterback on the side. Nathan is willing to try just about anything "as long as it's a vibe." Advocating for social change is something he is very passionate about. One of Nathan's main goals is to be a voice for the unheard; his journey to achieving that goal is only just beginning.



NIXSON BENITEZ (HE/HIM)

Nixson is a sophomore who attends the University of Northern Iowa. Nixson is from Polk County and is a proud Salvadoran! He plans to get a Bachelor in Journalism and Communications to amplify the voices for Central and Southern Americans. He also writes weekly letters of upcoming releases in the sneaker community.



SARAH-MARIE JABRE (SHE/HER)

Sarah-Marie Jabre is a Junior at Bishop Heelan High school in Sioux City. Sarah-Marie is Taiwanese-Lebanese American and the Mayor Pro-Tem of Sioux City's Mayor's Youth Commission. She is a creative, having played the violin for over thirteen years, percussion instruments for four years and illustrated seriously for two years. She has been vocal in her advocacy for quite some time as well and plans on taking it to the next level by engaging in art advocacy and activism, through illustration.



SIA SMITH (SHE/HER)

Sia is a sophomore at Urbandale High School. She plays basketball, band, and is also a coach and participant in Mock Trial. Sia wanted to join YAS, because she wanted to be able to talk to people outside of her school and create change through Iowa, not just in Urbandale.



VIJAY WILLIAMS (HE/HIM)

Vijay is a Senior at Ames High School in Story County. Vijay is also a creator of entertainment content who aspires to put positive themes of social justice throughout all of his work. Vijay hopes to create a world where people of color, people in the LGBTQ+ community and people with low-income can create creative content without having to feel or be restricted by modern society. Be on the lookout for all the intersectional work Vijay does both through DHR, Ames High School and his multimedia entertainment company, VCR Entertainment Media.



YURI RAMIREZ (SHE/HER)

Yuri is an 8th grader at Miller Middle School in Marshall County. Yuri plays soccer and volleyball and enjoys watching Netflix and spending time with family. She is picky when it comes to food, but she usually likes to try new things and meeting new people. Yuri is excited to be in the YAS, because she wants change and wants to see people working together without conflict. Yuri sees great things coming her way!